

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:21 a.m. at the National Auditorium, and his remarks were broadcast live on Mexican television. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this address.

### **Remarks to the Community in Tlaxcala, Mexico**

*May 7, 1997*

*Buenos días, Tlaxcala.* President and Mrs. Zedillo, Governor and Mrs. Alvarez-Lima, to all of our friends from Mexico and the United States. Mayor Teroba, thank you for welcoming us to this wonderful city. It is great to be here. I thank you for coming out to say hello.

President Zedillo and I have been working hard, as he said, and now we have come just to celebrate Mexico's people and culture with you. This is an especially important day for my wife and for me because we were married about 22 years ago, and we came to Mexico on our honeymoon. And so we always love to come back. And this is a very romantic setting to be in today, and we thank you for that.

The partnership between Mexico and the United States, the friendship between Mexico and the United States is important to the future of the American people and the Mexican people. It must be pursued in a genuine spirit of respect, equality, and dignity.

We are moving into a world with great changes in the way we work and live, and the world grows smaller because of technology and rapid communications. But some things do not change. This beautiful city, founded nearly 500 years ago, reminds us that even in times of great change, some things are meant to last: our heritage, our love of family, community, our devotion to work, our respect for the land we are blessed to inhabit.

It is my purpose to work with you to preserve the things that we want to preserve, to change as we must so that the people of Mexico and the people of the United States will have more and better jobs, good health care, all our children, boys and girls alike, will have good education, and we will be able together to beat back our common enemies of drugs and crime, so that as we move into

the new century, we will know we have preserved our community, our values, our integrity, and we have prepared the way for our children's future.

In closing, I would like to say a special thank you to the Mexican people for the many contributions that Mexican-Americans have made to our life in the United States. Two members of my Presidential Cabinet, many people in my administration, many Members of our Congress, people successful in all walks of life have their roots here in Mexico. They are proud of it, and so am I. And we are going to work hard to make sure that in the years ahead, we draw closer together, we work together, we maintain a spirit of pride in our own heritage, but a genuine partnership for a better future.

Thank you. Thank you, Mexico. Thank you for a wonderful visit.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:41 p.m. in the town square. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Jose Antonio Alvarez-Lima, and his wife, Veronica; and Mayor Cesareo Teroba of Tlaxcala. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

### **Proclamation 6999—Mother's Day, 1997**

*May 7, 1997*

*By the President of the United States of America*

#### **A Proclamation**

As we prepare to enter the 21st century, in the midst of a rapidly changing world, one thing remains constant—the unconditional love between a mother and her child. This love provides us with a cornerstone and sanctuary throughout our entire lives. Mothers nurture, challenge, and instill strong values in their children, find solutions, arbitrate disputes, organize activities, care and teach, influence and lead, give, share, and encourage. Their abiding moral principles shape our families, our communities, and our national life.

Today, mothers face many different challenges—from balancing the responsibilities of home and work, to raising families on their own—while contending with the often

daunting challenges of modern society. They do this all while meeting the day-to-day responsibilities of class projects, car payments, and the flu season. And yet, they succeed, determined to protect what is so precious to them and to make brighter futures for themselves, their children, and their Nation.

Each year we welcome the opportunity to set aside a day to acknowledge all that our mothers—whether biological, adoptive, or foster—have given us. It is a time to reflect on all we have gained from their guidance, care, and sacrifice and a time to openly express our gratitude and love. The Congress, by a joint resolution approved May 8, 1914 (38 Stat. 770), has designated the second Sunday in May each year as “Mother’s Day” and requested the President to call for its appropriate observance.

**Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton,** President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim May 11, 1997, as Mother’s Day. Whether we are able to share this special day with our mothers or are blessed with memories of them, in our hearts they are with us always. I urge all Americans to express their love and respect for their mothers and to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-first.

**William J. Clinton**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., May 8, 1997]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on May 9.

## **Proclamation 7000—Peace Officers Memorial Day and Police Week, 1997**

*May 7, 1997*

*By the President of the United States of America*

### **A Proclamation**

Law enforcement officers are true heroes, quietly risking their lives every day to protect our public safety and private property. The routine, everyday nature of their courage makes it all the more extraordinary. Day and night, these brave men and women leave home, put on their badges, and report for duty, putting their lives on the line for the rest of us.

Today, an estimated 587,000 men and women are sworn police officers, working to enforce our Nation’s laws and maintain order in our society. As citizens we owe these officers respect and gratitude, and Police Week is a welcome time for us to join together and salute these officers for the selfless work they carry out so faithfully all year long.

Sadly, during Police Week we also pause, on Peace Officers Memorial Day, to remember our fallen officers. Last year, 117 Federal, State, and local officers were killed in the line of duty. Although this number dropped to the lowest level in over 30 years—and the number of police officers killed by firearms alone dropped to 55 from 71 the previous year—these statistics, compiled by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, remain a cause for great concern. The loss of any police officer is a tragedy, and as a Nation, we mourn and remember these men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives. While we can never repay the debt we owe to these fallen officers and their families, we can—and must—honor their memory by carrying on their crusade to make America a better and safer place.

By a joint resolution approved October 1, 1962 (76 Stat. 676), the Congress has author-